



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

April 21, 2009

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Dear Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board Members,

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council is requesting to present our coordination strategy for your consideration. This strategy is from our original funding plan presented to you at the State Board Meeting on December 2, 2008, but was held for further development by the Council.

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council and First Things First staff have worked diligently with the Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council to develop a cross regional coordination strategy that includes the two Councils collaborating to implement coordination activities. The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council voted to approve the newly developed Coordination Strategy # 5 on April 21, 2009, and is now requesting that the Strategy be presented to the State Board for approval.

We are pleased to submit the following strategy for your consideration: *Collaborate on a regular basis with other Regional Partnership Councils in Maricopa County to ensure coordination and communication of services, programs, and resources for young children and their families across regions.*

The Southwest and Northwest Maricopa Regions have banded together to fully develop this comprehensive strategy to address cross regional coordination. With this strategy, the regions will work together to: develop a mechanism for service coordination, secure funding to support First Things First goals, share knowledge and expertise, problem solve issues that cross regional boundaries, collect data, share resources, and establish a seamless system of delivery with strong continuity across providers. Coordination efforts will assure that duplication of service provision is avoided, that communities can build on and enhance currently existing, high-quality services, that both public and private dollars are effectively leveraged for the highest return on the state's early childhood investment, and assist in data collection for ongoing and timely continuous improvements to the system structures and services.

Sincerely,

Colleen Day, Council Chair
Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

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Southwest Maricopa
Regional Partnership Council

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